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an opportunity

for you and your students
to actively participate in the electoral process

sponsored by:

Jesse White • Secretary of State

League of Women Voters of Illinois

McCormick Tribune Foundation

opportunity

Illinois Student Vote offers teachers and students the opportunity to participate in the electoral process. Participating schools and classes will study the candidates and issues of the 2008 Presidential election. This will enable students to make informed decisions as they vote for candidates in a simulated election on Thursday, October 30, 2008.

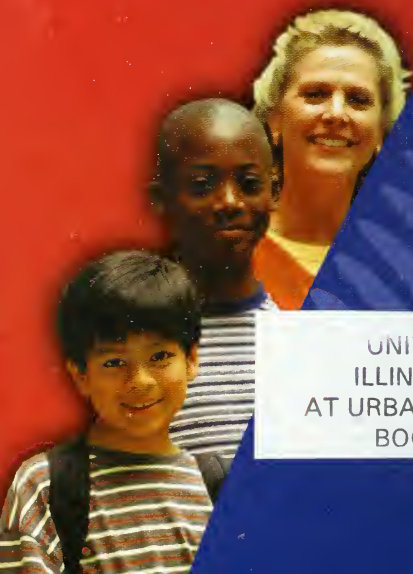
Individual class and school vote totals will be reported to the Illinois Student Vote headquarters, tallied with returns from across the state and reported to the National Student/Parent Mock Election headquarters.

awareness

Illinois Student Vote is a valuable teaching tool to increase awareness and understanding of the election issues and process, to encourage students to cast informed votes and get involved in the process and, ultimately, to create a generation of informed voting adults.

participation

Students in kindergarten through 12th grade may participate and vote in the mock election on October 30. Curriculum outlines and activities are available free at www.IllinoisStudentVote.org. Printed copies are available for \$12 each.



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benefits

Participating in Illinois Student Vote benefits the entire community by building responsible, contributing and knowledgeable citizens. Activities are designed to inform and excite students about voting and help them understand the need for citizen involvement in a democratic nation.

Participating teachers will receive curriculum plans to help them:

- ☆ Create a classroom election forum.
- ☆ Debate current events.
- ☆ Integrate government with reading and math.
- ☆ Develop critical thinking skills.
- ☆ Promote political discussion among students.

leadership

Students who become involved with the election process early will gain awareness that their actions count. The students of today will be the leaders of tomorrow.

information

For more information, please call 312-939-5935 or e-mail info@IllinoisStudentVote.org.

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application

Our school wishes to participate in Illinois Student Vote 2008. On Mock Election Day, a representative from our school will report tabulated results to the Illinois Student Vote headquarters.

You may register at www.IllinoisStudentVote.org or complete and mail this form to the address below.

Teacher's Name

School Name

School District Name and #

School Mailing Address

City/State/ZIP Code

School Phone Number (include Area Code)

School Fax Number

E-mail Address

Number of Students Participating

Grade Level(s)

Curriculum materials are available free to registered participants online or by e-mail.

OR

☐ Enclosed is \$12 for a printed copy of the materials.

**Please complete your registration
by September 1 and mail to:**

Illinois Student Vote 2008
League of Women Voters of Illinois
332 S. Michigan Ave., Ste. 1150
Chicago, IL 60604

Five days before **Election Day**, all will be watching as the **results** come in from all **50** states. The **voices** of **millions** of **young Americans** are about to be heard. Make **yours** one of them!

The **time** is
→ **now**

By 2015, young people ages 18-31 will constitute one-third of the electorate. We cannot underestimate the influence that future young voters will have in shaping our nation. A recent American Bar Association poll found that Americans are not sure what "separation of powers" means:

- Only 56 percent could identify the three branches of government — one in five thought "separation of powers" meant Democrat, Republican and Independent.
- 6 percent thought it meant "Republicans can do some things, but Democrats can do others."
- 27 percent thought it meant the Justice Department has different duties than the Defense Department.
- A Rutgers study found that eight out of 10 people ages 15 to 26 know that the animated Simpson's family lives in Springfield, but fewer than half of them know the political party of their state's governor.



The League of Women Voters
of Illinois Education Fund
332 S. Michigan Ave., Ste. 1150
Chicago, IL 60604
312-939-5935
www.IllinoisStudentVote.org

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Chicago, IL 60604

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